



# Snapshot

## Resolution Copper Project – Tailings Alternatives

### #4: Silver King - Filtered

#### SUMMARY

This is the lone alternative proposing to use filtered tailings – instead of slurry tailings -- at the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF).

As with other alternatives, Alternative 4 would include a split-stream tailings processing method with two tailings types:

- Non-potentially acid generating (NPAG) tailings (also known as scavenger tailings)
- Potentially acid generating (PAG) tailings (also known as pyrite tailings)

From the West Plant Site, pipelines would transport the two tailings slurry streams to filter plants at Silver King. Pressure filters would extract about 85 percent of the water from the tailings, resulting in a more solid product and a decrease in water pumped for operations.

Conveyors and mobile equipment would mechanically deposit NPAG and PAG tailings in two separate, adjacent TSFs.

To limit exposure of tailings to water, all runoff would be directed to perimeter ditches, sumps,

and/or underdrains. Water coming into contact with exposed tailings would be collected in large ponds located in natural valleys downstream from the TSF. Large dams also would be needed to keep upstream stormwater from reaching the TSF.

#### **Arizona National Scenic Trail**

The TSF and associated auxiliary facilities would impact approximately 5.5 miles of the Arizona National Scenic Trail, resulting in the rerouting of that portion of the trail.

#### **Location**

Tonto National Forest, north of the West Plant Site near Superior, Arizona

#### **Numbers**

2,279 acres – disturbance footprint at tailings storage

5,661 acres - total footprint within the fenceline for auxiliary facilities and tailings storage

1,040 feet – height of NPAG tailings

750 feet – height of PAG tailings

31 acres – additional disturbance for a 0.2-mile pipeline corridor to convey tailings

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#### ALTERNATIVES OVERVIEW

The National Environmental Policy Act requires the Forest Service to investigate alternatives to the various aspects of the proposed action as part of the Environmental Impact Statement process for the Resolution Copper Project and Land Exchange.

Alternatives are a mix of reasonable strategies that meet the purpose of and need for the proposed action, while resolving or addressing key issues identified during scoping.

In addition to the No Action Alternative (sequentially known as Alternative #1), the Forest Service is considering five reasonable “action” alternatives. A Draft EIS document will include an alternatives chapter that expands on each reasonable alternative. The Forest Service is projecting a June 2019 release of the Draft EIS.

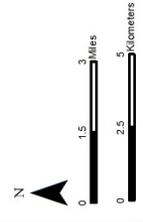
Resolution Copper Project and Land Exchange info is available online at:

<http://www.resolutionmineeis.us/>.

**RESOLUTION COPPER  
PROJECT AND  
LAND EXCHANGE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
STATEMENT**

**Legend**

- Cities
- Arizona Trail
- Project Area
- Tailings Storage Facility
- Land Ownership
- Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Department of Defense
- Private/Other
- State



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